

CLAIMS:

1. A method of detecting a malfunction during a displacement of an element by a drive system, in which method a processor determines a difference between a predetermined desired value and an actual value at regular intervals during the displacement of the element, characterized in that the processor further determines a derivative of the difference at regular intervals, said difference and its derivative both fluctuating around an equilibrium value, whereupon only the values at one side of the equilibrium value of the both the difference and the derivative are taken, the values of the difference are multiplied by the value of the derivative, the outcome of the multiplication is compared with a reference value by the processor, and a malfunction in the displacement of the element is detected if the outcome of the multiplication is higher than the reference value.
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2. A method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the chosen side of the equilibrium value is dependent on the direction in which the element is displaced.
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3. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the signals of the derivative are filtered.
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4. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the predetermined desired value represents the desired position of the displaceable element, while the actual value represents the actual position of the element.
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5. A device suitable for implementing the method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the device is provided with an element that is displaceable by means of a drive system and with a processor provided with means for comparing a desired value with an actual value, means for determining a derivative, means for determining values lying at one side of an equilibrium value, multiplication means, and means for comparing the outcome of a multiplication with a reference value.